

FRACTURE SPLIT METHOD FOR CONNECTING ROD

Abstract of the Disclosure

A connecting rod is formed using a method that comprising providing a connecting rod blank having. The connecting rod blank has a rod section disposed between a big end and a small end. The big end has a first hole generally sized to receive a crankpin of a crankshaft and at least one second hole generally sized to receive a bolt, wherein the axes of the first and second holes are generally normal to each other. The big end of the connecting rod has a dividing plane that extends through both the first and second holes. The connecting rod blank is processed by hardening at least the big end to a sufficient depth such that a first region of the big end lying between the first and second holes at the dividing plane is hardened, while leaving a substantial second region of the big end at the dividing plane generally unhardened. The connecting rod blank is further processed by splitting the big end along the dividing plane to produce a rod part fracture surface and a cap part fracture surface.